the meagerness of his actual proposal.

Community renewal programs raise questions of racial integration and special help for Negroes who make up a disproportionately high number of urban slum residents. Such programs always lose Southern Democratic votes. In this instance, offsetting Republican support has not emerged because the bill's implications for racial equality have been deliberately played down.

Although a major housing bill appears dead for this session of Congress, the Administration can learn for next year from analyzing the 1966 failure. If it is serious about attacking urban blight, it will have to back up its words with a realistic request for funds to do the job. If the program is to be flexible and have incentives, it can only gain them through sensitive administration; such criteria and distinctions cannot be detailed in the statute. As a political fact, Congress cannot assert that some cities are more equal than others. Finally, the Administration needs to find a way to win over either Southern Democrats or Northern Republicans. The cities cannot get the Federal financial help they need until they find dependable allies.

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Wanted: A Watchdog

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has taken a desirable first step toward effective supervision by Congress of the Central Intelligence Agency. The committee has given preliminary approval to a resolution sponsored by Senator Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota for a formal Senate committee with its own professional staff to oversee the operations of the C.I.A. and related intelligence agencies.

The Senate now has an informal committee, made up of the senior members of the Armed Forces and Appropriations Committees, which meets from time to time with C.I.A. officials but employs no independent staff. Since the McCarthy resolution provides that the new committee would consist of three members each from the Armed Forces, Appropriations, and Foreign Relations Committees, it does not at first glance represent a radical change. But, Senator McCarthy's obvious hope is that the injection of three members from Foreign Relations and the retention of a special staff would revitalize the existing arrangement.

Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia, the chairman of the Armed Forces Committee, is the dominant figure in the present informal committee. It is supposed to be a watchdog, but the record of the past decade makes clear that it is decidedly complacent about accepting the C.I.A.'s own judgments. Under a constitutional form of government in which power is shared by the executive and legislative branches, the Congress defaults on its responsibility when it fails to check closely on the complex and far-flung operations of an agency that spends enormous sums and involves itself in clandestine activities of the utmost moment to America's security and world position. The McCarthy proposal points the way to more meaningful guardianship.

Questions on Army Reserves

The calm tone of the report just issued by the Senate Preparedness Investigating subcommittee on the Pentagon's handling of Army Reserve components merely adds force to the seriousness of its indictment. The subcommittee, headed by Senator Stennis, provides strong documentation for its criticisms of the Defense Department's planning and execution of the program to increase the readiness of the Reserves. The Senators found that the deactivation of some 750 Army Reserve units had resulted in a "needless loss of manpower from a paid drill status" with no compensatory gain in readiness, and that serious personnel, training and equipment deficiencies remain unmet in Reserve Force units.

The panel recommended once again that the pro-

needs attention but most of these proposals inflame rather than cure. Canada's growth has been enormously aided by the influx of investment from the United States. It has meant jobs, raised incomes, opened markets and created opportunities for development. If foreign capital investment is prohibited or discouraged, Canada's economy will grow more slowly. And if Canadian resources are devoted mainly to the purchase of American companies operating in Canada, it would absorb domestic capital that could be used to enlarge and accelerate development.

Unquestionably, Canada's smaller population and less concentrated markets place it at a competitive disadvantage. The remedy, however, is not in an unrealistic and emotional demand for Canadian independence but in a better economic balance between the United States and Canada. Such a balance cannot be realized by erecting new barriers to investment or in restricting investment already in place. Resort to protectionist measures in an attempt to get rid of the alleged domination of American firms would hurt Canada much more than the United States.

American firms operating in Canada have a part to play in the catching-up process; but Canadians can do most to achieve a better economic balance by exploring ways to generate a faster rate of investment, not by seeking to slow it down.

Delay in Building Bridges

President Johnson's request for more authority to liberalize trade with Communist nations has run into a formidable roadblock in Congress. Representative Wilbur Mills, powerful Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, who opposes Mr. Johnson's desire to "build bridges" with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, asserts that the pressure of other business makes it impossible to hold hearings on the proposal to authorize lower tariffs on Communist goods in exchange for cultural and trade concessions for the United States. If he gets his way, the Administration's modest plans for encouraging peaceful trade will remain on the drawing board.

A more spirited Presidential demand for action is needed if any bridges are to be built. Mr. Johnson may not persuade Mr. Mills to abandon his personal opposition, but he should be able to pave the way for hearings, which are a prerequisite to legislation. There is a good chance of speedy passage in the Senate, where sentiment is strong for going beyond the Administration's proposals. The national interest will suffer if a Mills veto on hearings delays action indefinitely.

A Day Begins

Sunrise comes early now, before 5:30 as we read the clock; but the day begins still earlier, with first light, last winking star, and birdsong. Especially with song, for the dawn chorus of the birds makes the day's beginning a special occasion in city park, on suburban street or in the rural woodland.

There is neither scurry nor haste at that hour; haste awaits man's awakening. Stars slowly fade. The sky begins to brighten in the east. As the glow spreads, first birds awaken and call, tentatively, sleepily. Other birds awaken and answer. The calls become phrases of song as the light increases, deliberate as sunrise itself. The strengthening glow touches the treetops and there, on their high perches, the birds begin to sing as though they could already see the new day's dimensions.

The chorus rises and strengthens, filling the air. It continues until that crucial moment when the sun is about to appear. Then there is silence — incredible, awesome silence in the face of a great event, a miracle. The silence hangs in the air, almost palpable, until the sun's first rays appear. Then, like a great hallelujah, the chorus begins again, redoubled in volume. It is

While symbolic Hiroshima has suppurated all these years in our embarrassed conscience, Japan takes certain lugubrious pride in its disaster. The Japanese subtly use what is betokened by the horror of the city's name to guide the main lines of their present policy.

Rebuilt in singular ugliness and single-minded devotion to world peace, Hiroshima boasts a "Peace Memorial Museum" "Peace Boulevard" and, at the nearby Miyajima Shrine, an appeal for peace to Kannon, goddess of mercy. The point is grimly emphasized by museum exhibits such as chunks of fingernail and skin torn from

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By RUSSELL BAKER

WASHINGTON, May — the gentlemen of Detroit really going to make cars good. There is reason to suspect that they will go all the way.

For example, there is no discussion at all of engineering changes that eliminate the long-range pneumonia hazard in its present form, the car is a symbol that has to be washed every weekend unless the owner is willing to fall behind the Joneses.

Symbol-Seeking Humans

This means getting out in unhealthy wintry air with a garden hose and decaying undershirts and splashing water off its miracle acrylic finish. Result: wet feet, frozen hands, damp trousers, head colds, influenza and, quite possibly, pneumonia.

There are professional washers, of course, but in the winter months the waiting line is usually an hour long, and sitting for sixty minutes in a car-wash queue presents a definite nerve hazard.

The pneumonia hazard could be eliminated in one of three ways: (1)—by producing a car that is a car instead of a status symbol, which would end the owner's obligation to wash it. (2)—By installing automatic self-washing devices. (3)—By replacing the metal finish with a porous coating of some substance such as foam rubber or raw cotton that would absorb the hose water instead of bouncing it back into the owner's shoes.

Ban the Butt

A true safety car would also eliminate the cigarette hazard. Right now the car is designed to compel drivers to smoke, and everybody knows the danger of smoking.

You get behind the wheel and start to drive and before long the boredom is coming down in buckets. There is nothing more tedious than maneuvering a status symbol along a hundred miles of asphalt. You can't